

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is the § 371 U.S. National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US2003/040992, filed on December 18, 2003, which was published in English under PCT Article 21(2), and which in turn ~~application claims priority to the benefit of~~ U.S. provisional patent application no. 60/434,795 filed ~~12/18/2002~~ December 18, 2002, ~~the contents~~ both of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

Please replace the existing sequence listing with the attached sequence listing.

Please insert the attached Abstract as page 25 of the specification.